



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, December 21, 2007

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FORMER MAYOR OF MARANA, ARIZ. AND FRIEND PLEAD GUILTY

Both admitted they denied victim the right to freely engage in interstate commerce

TUCSON, Ariz. - Bobby Glenn Sutton, Jr., 38, and Richard Arthur Westfall, 45, both of Marana, Ariz., pleaded guilty yesterday in federal district court in Tucson to one count each of the misdemeanor charge of Deprivation of Rights under Color of Law. Westfall also pleaded guilty to count 3 of a previous indictment which charged him with making a false statement to the FBI during the course of the investigation. That felony charge will be dropped upon successful completion of his sentence.

In accepting their guilty pleas yesterday, U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson also sentenced both Sutton and Westfall during the hearing to two years of supervised probation and 100 hours of community service. Both defendants admitted in federal court that they denied Waste Management employees of the right to freely engage in interstate commerce.

Sutton and Westfall's trial in October ended in a mistrial after the jury hung on the 3-count indictment. Today in pleading guilty, two of the three original felony charges against Westfall were dropped and both felony counts against Sutton were dropped.

The indictment alleged that Sutton, then Mayor of Marana, Ariz., and Westfall conspired and agreed to extort Waste Management, a Houston, Texas based multi-state company. The object of the conspiracy was to unlawfully obtain money and a position for Westfall from Waste Management by using Sutton's official position to, among other things, threaten official action that would disrupt the business of Waste Management.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the FBI Tucson Resident Agency. The prosecution was handled by Howard D. Sukenic, Gary M. Restaino and John R. Lopez IV, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-0826-TUC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-259(Sutton)

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